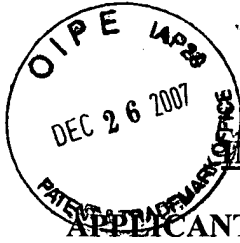


AF/TFW



Atty. Docket: 2797 (203-3175 PCT US)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANT(S):** Russell Heinrich                      **EXAMINER:** Michael G. Mendoza  
**SERIAL NO.:** 10/510,451                      **ART UNIT:** 3734  
**FILED:** October 4, 2004                      **DATED:** December 20, 2007  
**FOR:** **SURGICAL STAPLER AND METHOD**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUBMISSION OF DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

Sir:

Attached hereto, please find a newly executed original Declaration and Power of Attorney to replace the Declaration and Power of Attorney.

This Declaration and Power of Attorney is being submitted herewith to appoint the attorneys and/or agents via Customer No. 50855.

Respectfully submitted,

Francesco Sardone  
Reg. No.: 47,918  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Dated: **December 20, 2007**

  
Nicole Rispone